(b) Funds for financing core infrastructure projects

(i) LA for Perimeter Expressway and four directional terminals.	800	
(ii) Regional Rapid Transit system	360	
(iii) Underground Metro network	725	Rs. 1885 cr.
	Total	Rs. 2035 cr.

Supply of Leaking Cylinders to Consumers

3844. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state.

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that LPG cylinders being delivered to the consumers by most of the oil companies have leakage problem;

(b) if so, whether it is due to refilling of LPG in old cylinders; and

(c) the measures being taken by Government to ensure that leaking cylinders are not delivered to consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Pre-delivery checks are conducted at both the Distributors Godowns as well as the customers premises to ensure that only sound cylinders are delivered to consumers. However, during the usage of cylinder, if a leakage develops, immediate remedial measures are taken.

(b) It is not true that the leakages occur due to LPG being filled in old cylinders. All cylinders in circulation are hydro-tested once in 5 years to ensure their fitness for use.

(c) The following checks and measures are in vogue to ensure that only sound cylinders are delivered to consumers:—

(i) At the bottling plants, each cylinder after filling, is passed through CVT test to check for valve/"O" ring defects and water-bath test to detect any leakages from the bung or the body.

(ii) Damaged or highly mutilated cylinders are put out of circulation and are crushed under supervision to prevent misuse.

(iii) As stated in "a" above predelivery checks are conducted to ensure that the cylinders delivered are not leaky.

Planning Commission's Objective of Utilization of Natural Resources

*3845 SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has a new objective of optimal utilisation of natural resources;

(b) if so, what directions have been given to the States to achieve this objective; and

(c) the details of steps being taken by Government to achieve optimal utilisation of natural resources in all the Sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER ALAGH): (a) to (c) The Planning Commission has recognised that the basic resource endowments, i.e., the sources of energy, land, water and other essential minerals, environment and ecology are vital elements in the determination of the potential for the growth and comparative advantage. The plan documents dealing with the development perspective spell out the general details on natural resources.

It is imperative that the processes which economise most on the use of energy and avoids wastage of raw materials are to be adopted.

Measures will also have to be initiated for reducing energy intensity in different sectors through changes in technology and processes. Inter-fuel and intra-fuel substitution will have to be optimised. The main emphasis will have to be towards in maximising the use of renewable sources of energy. Major stress on efficiency, conservation and demand management has to be laid to bring down the energy elasticity to out put.

In the field of use of water, it is essential to increase the productivity of water harnessed through irrigation by improving efficienccy of water management and by conjunctive use of surface and ground water, adequate sustainable maintenance and farmers' involvement.

Mineral resources, being non-renewable, call for more vigorous and sustained efforts for the discovery and exploration of mineral deposits and scientifically planned demand management and replacement by substitutes.

Compassionate Employment out of Handicapped quota in Jammu and Kashmir

3846 MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for employment on compassionate grounds in Class-IV category out of handicapped quota in Jammu and Kashmir, under various welfare schemes;

(b) the details of applications received and disposed of, indicating employment provided/rejected, alongwith reasons therefor, during the last three years till date, separately;

(c) whether cases of residents of Rajouri district recommended by the Chief Secretary/Additional Chief Secretary and Deputy Commissioner and by the Home and Social Welfare Departments have been pending since 1992-93; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor and by when employment is likely to be offered in these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) As per State Government rules, out of total number of available vacancies in the direct recruitment quota (reserved as well as un-reserved), handicapped persons get preferential treatment for selection in each service, class, category and grade to the extent of 2% of the posts.

(b) to (d) The information is being collected from the concerned Recruitment Agencies and will be laid on the Table of the House, as and when received.

Non Utilization of Central Assistance for Employment in Rural Areas

3847 SHRI SATISH PRADHAN:
SHRI ADIK SHIRODKAR:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial assistance provided under different Central schemes for creation of employment in rural areas during the last three years, the results achieved therefrom, particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) the details of financial allocations available under those schemes to Maharashtra for the current year;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Central assistance provided under those schemes is not properly utilised by the State Governments; and

(d) if so, what specific steps have been taken/are proposed to be taken for effective monitoring and concurrent evaluation of the schemes to achieve their objectives?